<u>Abstract</u>

In order to make available a method for preventing the falsification of access cards as well as an identification card which provides the greatest possible control opportunity and comprehensive protection from forgery at low cost and with little technical effort, a method for preventing the falsification of access cards (which contain plain text information that identifies the type of authorization) is proposed, wherein the plain text information is encoded by using a key, and the resulting code is applied to the access card.